

From: Gruetzner
To: Microsoft ATR
Date: 1/27/02 10:33pm
Subject: Microsoft Settlement

Renata B. Hesse
Antitrust Division
United States Department of Justice
601 D Street NW
Suite 1200
Washington, DC 20530-0001

Dear Ms. Hesse:

This comment is submitted in accordance with the provisions of the Tunney Act concerning the proposed settlement of the prosecution of Microsoft, Inc. ("Microsoft") for violations of the Sherman Antitrust Act.

I am a private consumer of computer hardware and software products. I own no stock nor have financial interest in Microsoft or in any of its competitors (except as may or may not be held by mutual funds I have invested in).

Microsoft has been found guilty of violating the Sherman Antitrust Act. However, the proposed settlement does not end the monopoly Microsoft has in operating systems, office applications, and internet applications. In addition, it does not deprive Microsoft of its gains achieved through its illegal practices.

Any reasonable settlement must provide for the establishment of significant competition in operating systems, in office applications, and in internet applications. It must separate these three activities of Microsoft, and provide that any combination of Microsoft and non-Microsoft software, internet applications, and operating systems may be run at the consumer's discretion.

The Justice Department should ensure that the court hold public proceedings under the Tunney Act which give citizens consumer groups, as well as Microsoft's competitors and customers, an equal opportunity to participate.

Thank you very much for your time and consideration.

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